

# **ROADWAY SAFETY DATA - CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT**

Webinar 2  
May 10, 2011

► **Learn more at:**  
**[safety.fhwa.dot.gov/rsdp](http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/rsdp)**



# Webinar 2 Agenda

- Welcome, Introductions and Webinar purpose
- Project Overview
- Division Office Role and Tools
- Assessment Framework and Process
- Pilot Results
- Feedback

► Learn more at [safety.fhwa.dot.gov/rsdp](https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/rsdp)

# Overview of the VHB Team

- VHB
  - Ms. Kim Eccles
    - Technical Director [keccles@vhb.com](mailto:keccles@vhb.com)
  - Mr. Mike Sawyer
    - Task Order Principal Investigator [msawyer@vhb.com](mailto:msawyer@vhb.com)
  - Ms. Nancy Lefler
    - Project Manager, TWG Coordinator [nlefler@vhb.com](mailto:nlefler@vhb.com)
- *Supported by:*
  - UNC – Highway Safety Research Center
  - Data Nexus Inc.
  - NAVIGATS, Inc
  - Dr. Forrest Council



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# Webinar Purpose

► Learn more at [safety.fhwa.dot.gov/rsdp](https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/rsdp)

# Webinar Purpose

- Provide a project overview
- Update on project status
- Review Division Offices' role and available tools
- Introduce the assessment process
- Provide pilot state results
- Opportunities for feedback

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# Project Overview

► Learn more at [safety.fhwa.dot.gov/rsdp](https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/rsdp)

# Project Overview

- Brand and Logo
- Objectives
- Communication and Outreach
- Current Status
- Pilot States
- Schedule

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# Brand and Logo

## ROADWAY SAFETY DATA PARTNERSHIP

COLLECTING • ANALYZING • MANAGING • EXPANDING

► Learn more at [safety.fhwa.dot.gov/rsdp](https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/rsdp)



# Partnership Components

## ROADWAY SAFETY DATA PARTNERSHIP

COLLECTING • ANALYZING • MANAGING • EXPANDING

- **Capability Assessment**
- Model Inventory of Roadway Elements (MIRE)
- Crash Data Improvement Program (CDIP)
- Roadway Data Improvement Program (RDIP)
- Highway Safety Manual (HSM)

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# Capabilities Assessment - Objectives

- To create and carry out a process to assess each State's roadway data capabilities.
- To create a current baseline for each State and the Nation.
- To identify gaps and where States would like to be.
- To propose actions to move each State and the Nation forward in safety data analysis.

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# Communication and Outreach

- Engaging:
  - Technical Working Groups
  - Pilot States
  - FHWA Division Offices
    - Project Summary Sheets
    - Talking Points
    - Website
  - NHTSA Regions
  - States
  - Communities of Interest



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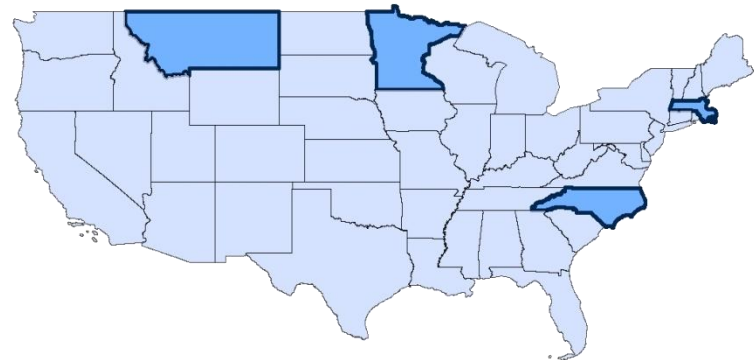
# Current Status

- Assessment process and framework approved
- Outreach initiatives ongoing
- Existing State resources collected
- Potential funding source summary complete
- Tested in two of four Pilot States
- Modifying process based upon the results

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# Pilot States

- Montana – Rural (4/28)
- Minnesota - Locally-maintained (5/6)
- Massachusetts – Urban (5/18)
- North Carolina - State-maintained (June 2011)



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# Remaining Schedule

- Twenty State Assessments
  - Mid-Point Report: Webinar 3 – August 30, 2011
- Remaining State Assessments
  - Final Report: Webinar 4 – July 10, 2012



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# Questions?

## Ways to Provide Additional Feedback

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# DIVISION OFFICE ROLE AND USEFUL TOOLS

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# Role of the Division Office

COLLECTING • ANALYZING • MANAGING • EXPANDING

## ROADWAY SAFETY DATA PARTNERSHIP

COLLECTING • ANALYZING • MANAGING • EXPANDING

The Roadway Safety Data Partnership is designed to be a collaborative effort between FHWA and States to ensure that they are best able to develop robust data-driven safety capabilities. We also anticipate that this partnership will help States to gauge where they are in this arena, where they would like to be, and what they need to do in order to reach their self-established goals.

**PURPOSE**

The first project under the partnership is the State Safety Data Capabilities Assessment which focuses on roadway safety data. The purpose of this project is to help States determine their current safety data capabilities, where they are and where they would like to be. It is an effort to assist the States to achieve their roadway data goals.


**ROLE OF THE DIVISION**

- This initiative needs a **champion** in the Division as well as in your Division Offices to be proactive and help maintain focus on how to help improve the safety data that is critical to evidence-based programs.
- The States need an **advocate** in this initiative. Make sure that the questions and is creating a discussion that will be useful to the States for ways that FHWA can better support them as each State advances and management of roadway data.
- The States need targeted **technical assistance and support** to determine their goals, identify their gaps, and develop their action plans.
- Each State needs a **mentor** to monitor progress related to their actions and how to best achieve their goals. The Office of Safety recognizes that the people and environment in their States better than we do to help us conduct the most effective and beneficial assessment.

**SCOPE AND TIMEFRAME**

The assessment will take place in all 50 States plus the District of Columbia. The assessments will occur in 2011 and 2012 to maximize participation with the possibility of some States populating a questionnaire that has been designed to help us determine their current safety data capabilities, where they are and where they would like to be. We will be using information available from other related projects. The RSDP project team will identify the appropriate individual(s) in the State and the Division Office.

If you have further questions or comments about this new partnership please contact:  
Dr. Heather Rothenberg, FHWA  
(202) 366-2193  
Heather.Rothenberg2@dot.gov

Safe Roads for a Safer Future  
Investment in roadway safety saves lives

## ROLE OF THE DIVISION

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- Champion
- Advocate
- Supporter
- Mentor

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# Scheduling Assessment

1. FHWA/Project Team contacts FHWA Division Office
2. Division Office informs the State about the project, identifies key contacts, and provides contact information to project team
3. Project team contacts NHTSA Reps to inform them of project
4. Project team contacts State to schedule assessment
5. Project team provides the State questionnaire and works with State to determine the most appropriate persons to participate in Assessment
6. Confirm date of assessment
7. Work with States to answer any questions/concerns prior to Assessment

\*Division Office and NHTSA Reps will be included on all key communications with the State.

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# Tools - Website

**ROADWAY SAFETY**  
**DATA PARTNERSHIP**  
COLLECTING • ANALYZING • MANAGING • EXPANDING

Skip to Main Content | Site Map | Home

About the Partnership | FAQs | Have a Question?

In an effort to expand its relationship with the States, FHWA has initiated the Roadway Safety Data Partnership. Its purpose is to develop a better understanding of the current capabilities and conditions of safety data collection in all States and to help States improve those capabilities.

Click on a State below to see the current status for each State:  
Or, select a state from the list:

Assessor to be scheduled

Assessor scheduled

Assessor completed

For more information, please contact:  
Heather Rothenberg  
Heather.Rothenberg2@dot.gov  
(202)366-2193

Working with various national partners, FHWA aims to move the nation forward in safety data analysis and to create a national data capability baseline.

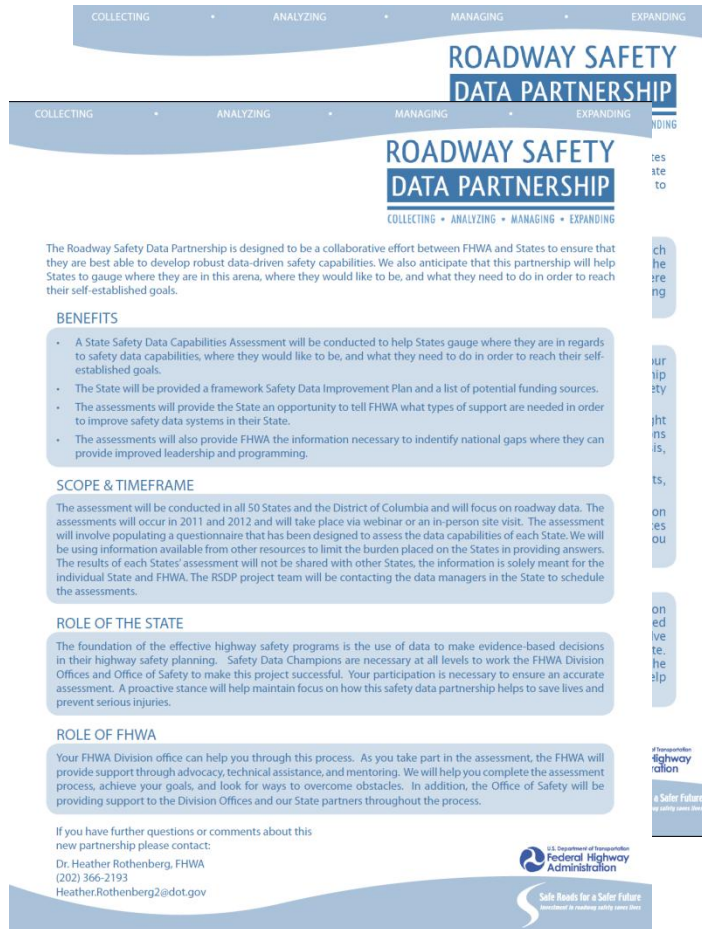
Using a consistent and systematic assessment process, the Partnership will provide each State with a customized assessment of their current roadway data capabilities. States will also receive guidance and technical assistance throughout the process in order to overcome gaps and integrate improvements into their overall safety plans.

Safe Roads for a Safer Future  
Investment in roadway safety saves lives

U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration

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# Tools - Informational Handouts



- Benefits
- Scope
- Timeframe
- Role of the State
- Role of the FHWA

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# Tools - Talking Points

## Assessment Project Talking Points

### Roadway Safety Data Partnership

1. Much of the effort in the past decades has concentrated on crash data; part of the picture. Roadway and traffic data are also essential. By incorporating data into network screening analysis, prioritization, and countermeasures, we can better identify safety problems and prescribe solutions to improve the efficient and effective use of safety resources.
2. The Roadway Safety Data Partnership is designed to be a collaborative effort between States to ensure that the States are best able to develop robust data-driven strategies to create a national data capability baseline.
3. This partnership will help States to gauge where they are in this arena, what they need to do in order to reach their self-established goals.
4. Using a consistent and systematic assessment process, the Partnership will develop a customized assessment of their current roadway data capabilities.
5. States will also receive assistance throughout the process to identify actions that will help them overcome gaps and integrate improvements into the

- The Partnership
- The process
- Project schedule
- How does it fit in?
- Use of results

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# FAQs

- What is the difference between this and a TRA?
  - More detailed assessment of roadway/traffic inventories
  - TRA is once every 5 years – RSDP Assessment will provide snapshot/baseline of Nation and States
- Will FHWA share the State's results?
  - No, the results are only for the States and FHWA. States can share their results with each other if they choose.
- Is FHWA going to judge the States?
  - No, assessment will help States determine where they are, and where they want to be.

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# Questions?

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# ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK AND PROCESS

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# Overview of Assessment Process



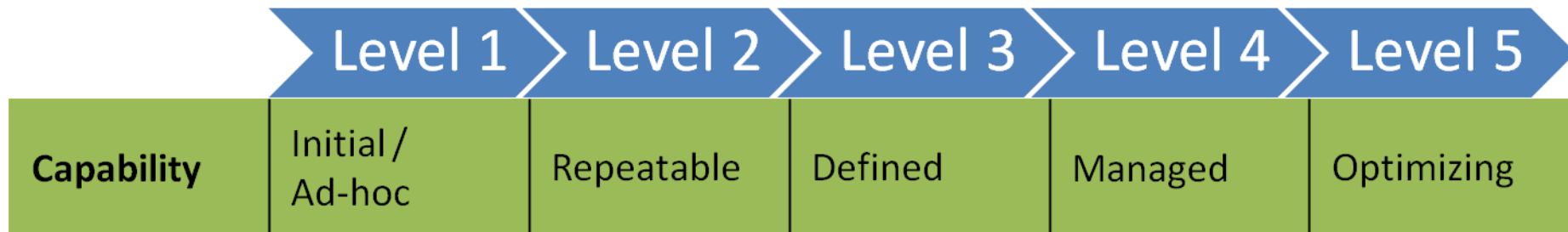
- Lead Assessor assigned to each State
- Defendable, repeatable, consistent process



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# Capability Maturity Model

- Systematic, objective assessment (not judgment)
- Five-point scale - less to more mature
- Each State will be placed in one of the five levels
- Provides FHWA quantitative results
- Provides State qualitative level and recommendations for moving to next level



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# Assessment Framework

- Focus Areas
- Subareas/Elements
  - Each will have maturity level criteria
  - Key questions for Assessor to determine level
  - Modular – can stand alone or be combined
- Scoring to achieve overall capability level
- Additional qualitative questions
  - Desired level of the State
  - Key barriers
  - Resources/tools that would be beneficial to the State

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# Questionnaire

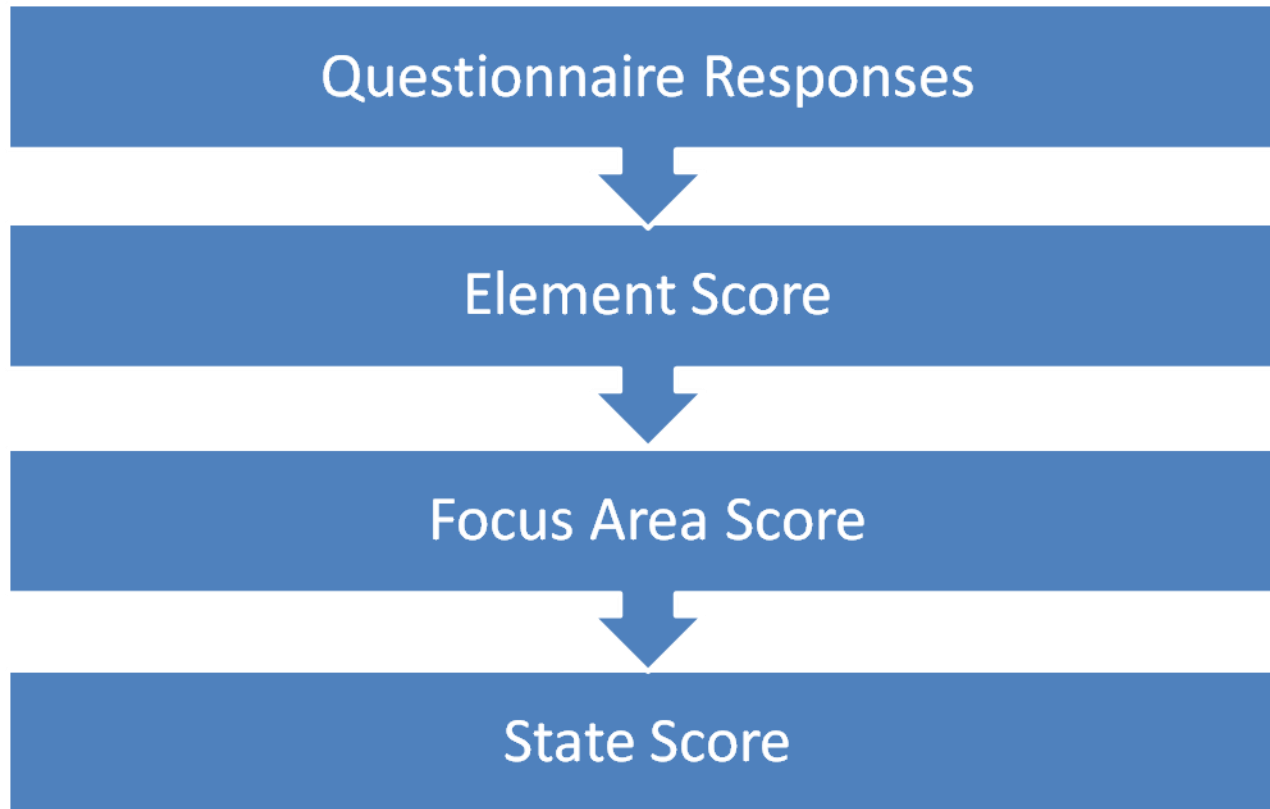
- Key questions developed to determine maturity level for each element
- Questionnaire will be web-based = “Assess-inar”
- Completed by project team based on resources prior to assessinar (reduce burden to the State)
- States review and provide feedback during assessinar
- Determine if site visit is needed

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# QUESTIONNAIRE

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# Scoring Overview



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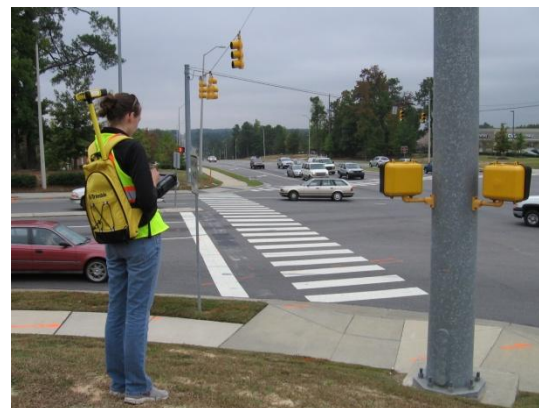
# Focus Areas

- Area 1: Roadway Data Collection/Technical Standards
- Area 2: Data Analysis, Tools and Uses
- Area 3: Data Management and Governance
- Area 4: Data Interoperability and Expandability

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# Key Area 1 Elements

- **Roadway Data Collection/ Technical Standards**
  - Completeness
  - Timeliness
  - Accuracy
  - Uniformity/Consistency
- Each element will look at data categories: roadway segments, intersections, interchanges, ramps, curves, and grades

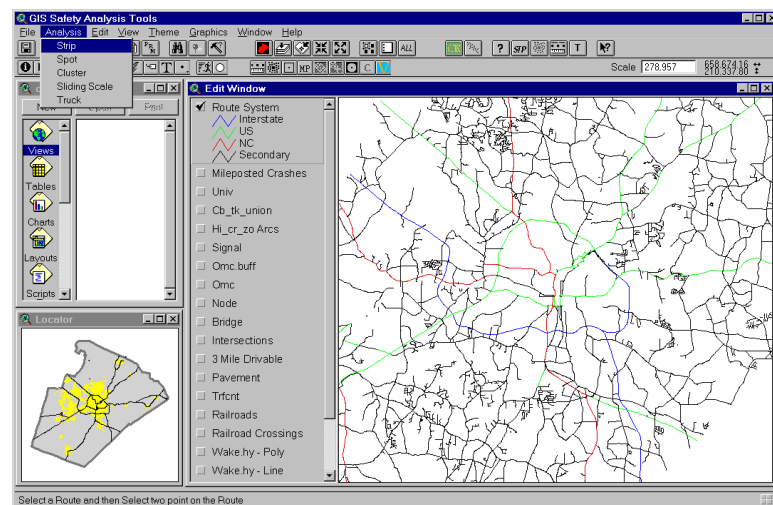


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# Key Area 2 Elements

- **Data Analysis, Tools and Uses**
  - Network Screening
    - Method
    - Data
    - Coverage
  - Diagnosis
  - Countermeasure Selection
  - Evaluation
    - Project
    - Program
  - Accessibility



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# Key Area 3 Elements

- **Data Management and Governance**
  - People
  - Policies
  - Technology



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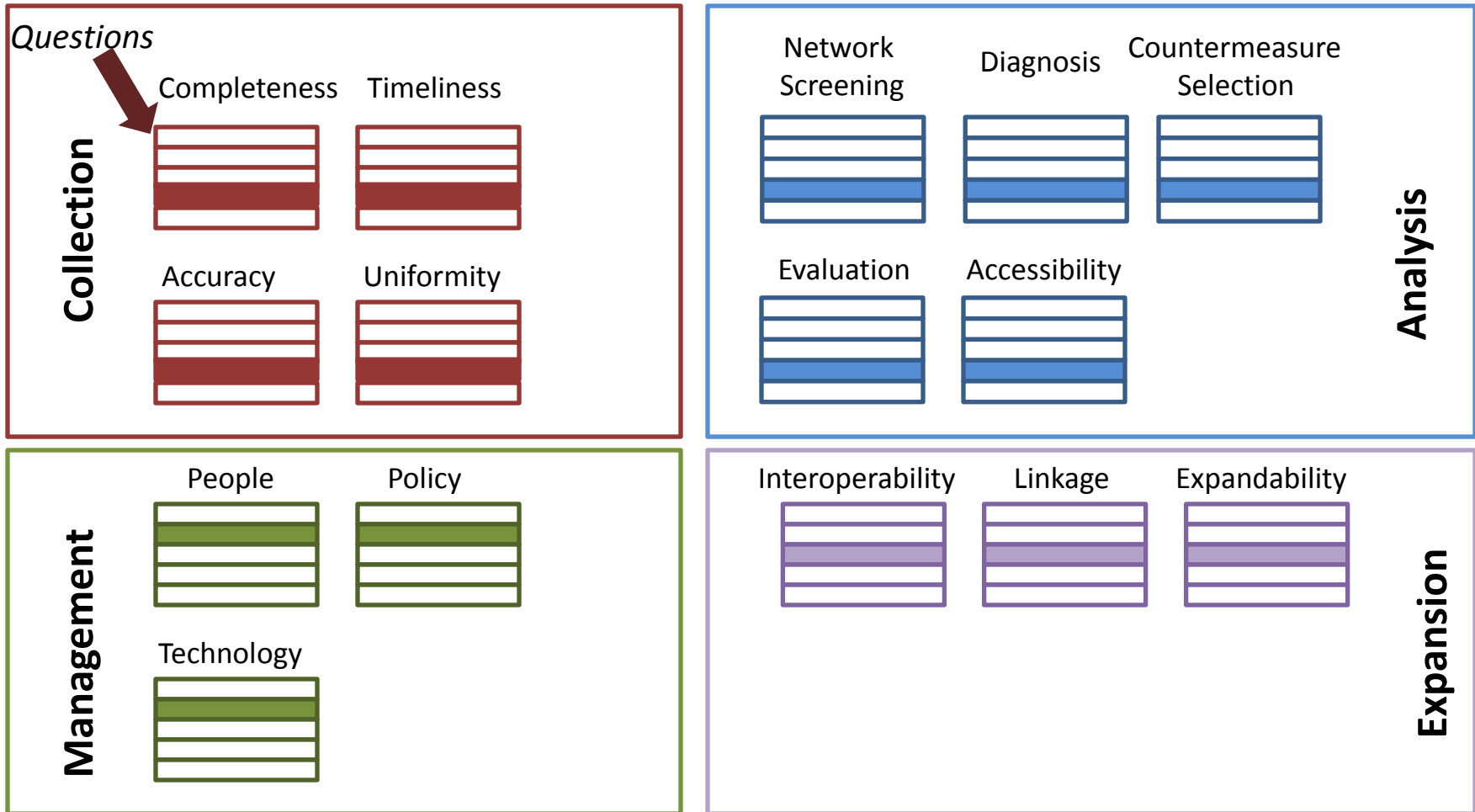
# Key Area 4 Elements

- **Data Interoperability and Expandability**
  - Expandability
  - Linkage
  - Interoperability



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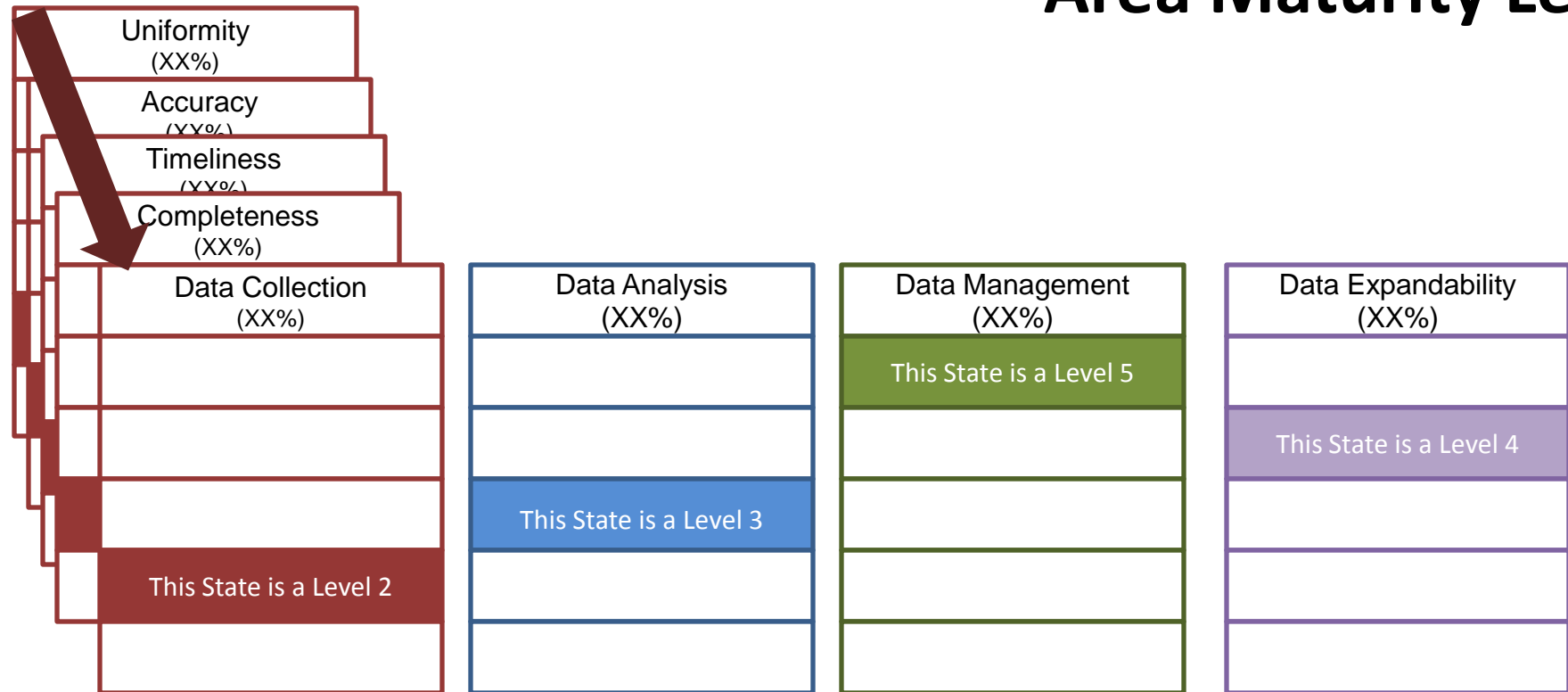
# Element Maturity Level



Apply Checkpoints and Dependencies

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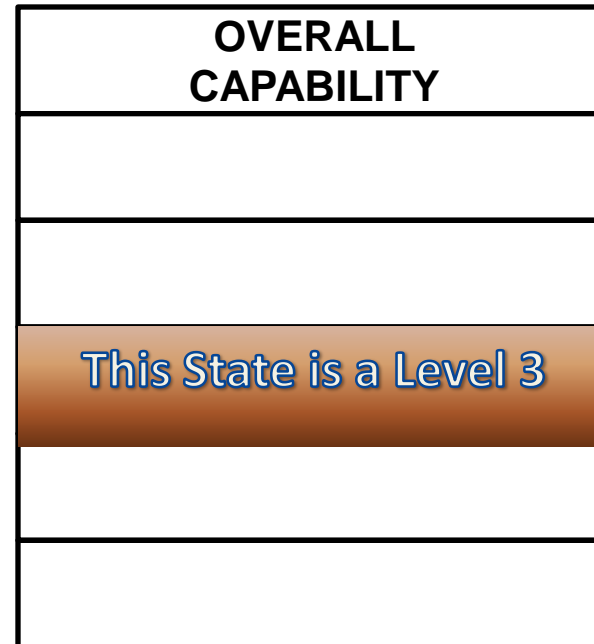
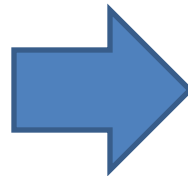
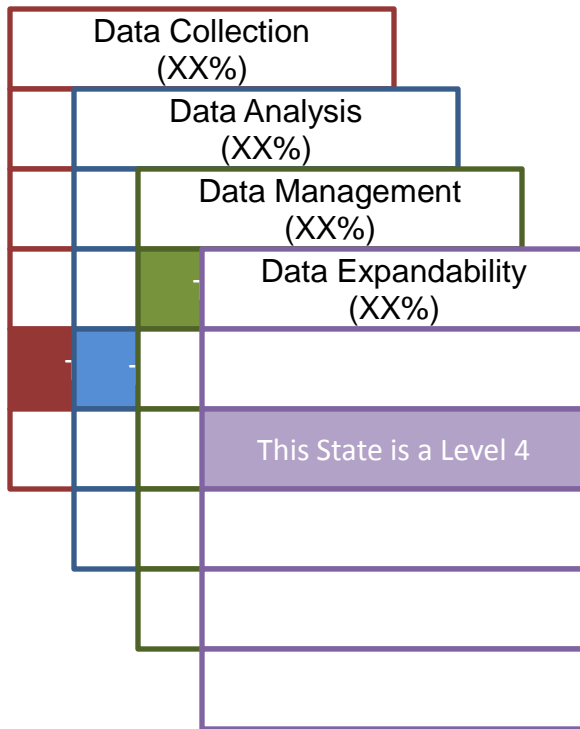
# Area Maturity Level



**Apply Checkpoints and Dependencies**

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# State Data Capability Maturity Level



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# Consistency

- Consistent process and scoring criteria to assess each State...
  - Expert Lead Assessors
  - Questionnaire
  - Pilot State testing
  - Common thread – TOPI
    - Attends every assessment
    - Errors corrected immediately
    - Continuous improvement



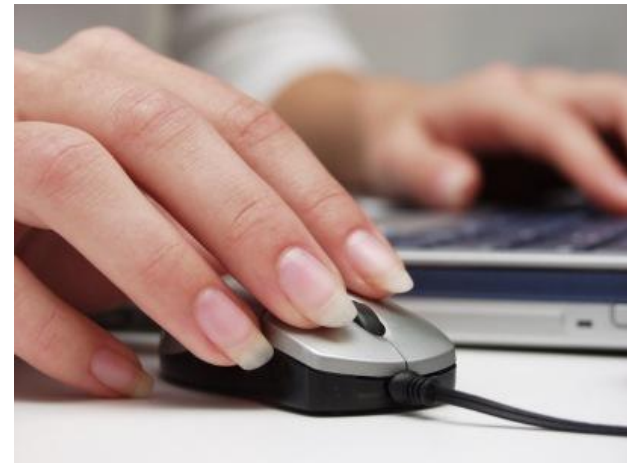
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# PILOT STATE RESULTS

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# General Comments

- The assessment tool will provide good baseline results for the nation and each state
- Some states may get frustrated, particularly if their data systems and programs are not robust
- We identified several actions to improve the assessment process and results

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# Potential Opportunities

- Lead Time / Timing
- Length
- Format
- Broad questions vs specific systems
- Data Governance questions
- Defining Roadway Inventory Data

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# Specific Recommendations

- Build plenty of lead time into the process
- Target a smaller audience with specific questions
- Utilize a story board approach
- Remove certain questions from the larger group to be answered one-on-one
- Identify a key IT Professional to assist in answering Data Governance questions
- Consider when to use face-to-face vs web-based meetings
- Allow additional time for state response if needed

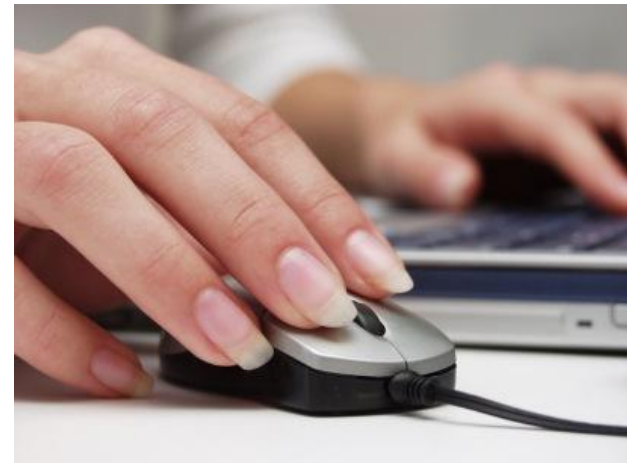
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